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Robert Dinwiddie to George Washington, June 16, 1757, Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.

FROM GOVERNOR DINWIDDIE.

WILLIAMSBURG June 16th: 1757

SIR

I am to acknowledge the Receipt of Yrs of the 10th but I am so much hurried that I cannot answer it, but as Mr. Boyd is daily expected by him I shall write You more fully.

Otassity of Ostenaker, ¹ conducts thirty Cherokees to You with Intention to go out against the Enemy;—I think he is a brave Indian, & talks much of Majr. Lewis; I believe he may be prevail'd on to stay with his People all the Summer. ²

They were desirous that Mr. Gun shou'd go with them & if he goes with them to fight he shall have Lieuts. Pay if You shd. think him a proper Person—Excuse Hurry

I am Sir Your hble Servt. ROBT. DINWIDDIE

¹ Outacite, Outacita, Wootassitie, or Mankiller, king of the Cherokee nation. See Dinwiddie Papers; also Ford's Writings of Washington, vol. i. p. 457.

² The friendship and assistance of the Cherokees were well worth cultivating, and Washington thought that, under the circumstances then existing, they were indispensably necessary.